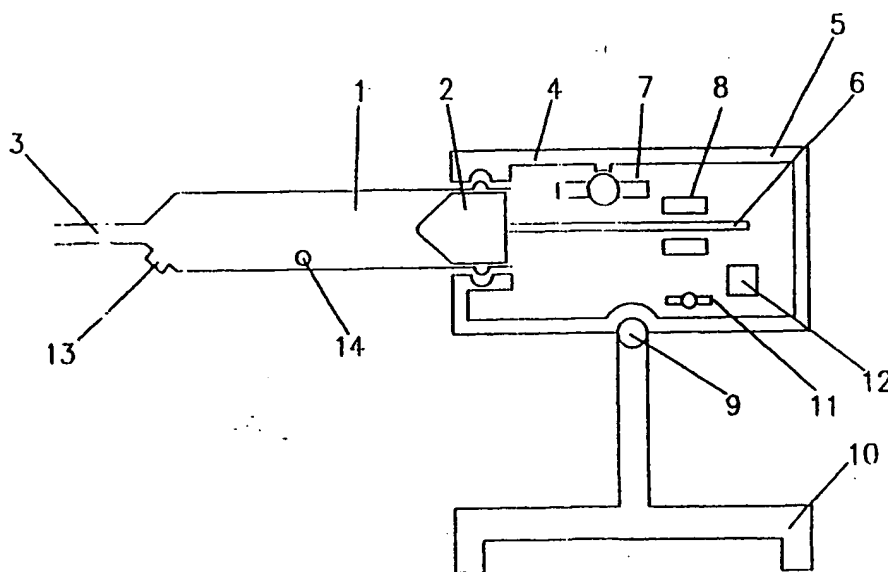




## INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| (51) International Patent Classification <sup>7</sup> :<br>A61M 5/145, B01F 11/00   | A1  | (11) International Publication Number: WO 00/12158<br>(43) International Publication Date: 9 March 2000 (09.03.00) |
| (21) International Application Number: PCT/EP99/06290<br>(22) International Filing Date: 26 August 1999 (26.08.99)<br>(30) Priority Data:<br>198 40 532.4 28 August 1998 (28.08.98) DE<br>(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): SCHERING<br>AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT [DE/DE]; Müllerstrasse 178,<br>D-13353 Berlin (DE).<br>(72) Inventor; and<br>(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): URICH, Klaus [DE/DE];<br>Parkstrasse 27a, D-13129 Berlin (DE). | (81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG,<br>BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DK, DM, EE, ES, FI,<br>GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE,<br>KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG,<br>MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE,<br>SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN,<br>YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD,<br>SL, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ,<br>MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE,<br>DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE),<br>OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML,<br>MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).<br><br>Published<br>With international search report.<br>Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the<br>claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of<br>amendments. |  |

(54) Title: SYRINGES AND INJECTORS INCORPORATING MECHANICAL FLUID AGITATION DEVICES



## (57) Abstract

A syringe for use with an injector includes a body comprising a distal discharge end, a plunger movably disposed within the body, and an agitation element disposed within the body between the plunger and the distal discharge end. A movement mechanism is operably associated with the injector to move the syringe in such a way that the at least one agitation element agitates a fluid contained in the syringe. Preferably, the syringe contains an ultrasound contrast agent that is agitated by the agitation element. An injector system and a method for agitating the contents of a syringe are also provided.